AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following **Listing of Claims** replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

What is claimed is:

1.(Currently Amended) Time synchronizing device for synchronizing a router arranged between ~~two~~a first and a second communication ~~networks~~network, said synchronizing device comprising:

receiving means for receiving synchronizing data based on a reference time clock, and

exploiting means for exploiting said synchronizing data (SYNC) so as to synchronize a local time clock used by said router with respect to said reference time clock,

wherein said time synchronizing device comprises:

intercepting means for intercepting at least one message (MSG) coming from at least one apparatus being a point of ~~at least one of~~ said first network ~~networks, called the source network for said message (MSG),~~ and directed to the ~~other of said networks~~second network, ~~called the target network for said message (MSG),~~ said apparatus having a specific time clock,

preparing means for preparing a time request intended for said apparatus, said time request being able to be executed in said apparatus so as to cause said synchronizing data based on said specific time clock to be obtained from said apparatus and to be transmitted back to said synchronizing device,

sending means for sending said time request to said apparatus, and

forwarding means for forwarding said intercepted message (MSG) to said ~~target~~second network after the preparing means ~~have~~has prepared said time request,

said receiving means being intended to receive said synchronizing data from said apparatus and said exploiting means being able to exploit said synchronizing data so as to synchronize said local time clock with respect to said specific time clock, said receiving means, exploiting means, intercepting means, preparing means, sending means and

forwarding means forming an operational set.

2. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein said intercepting means ~~are~~is intended to intercept said message and said receiving means ~~are~~is intended to receive and extract said synchronizing data in compliance with ~~the~~ HTTP protocol.

3. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein said preparing means ~~are~~is intended to prepare the time ~~requests~~request in the form of executable scripts, preferably based on ~~the~~ Java ~~language~~.

4. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein said forwarding means ~~are~~is intended to forward said intercepted message to said ~~target~~second network only after the exploiting means ~~have~~has exploited said synchronizing data obtained from said apparatus by means of said time request.

5. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein said preparing means ~~are~~is able to prepare said time request for getting at least one of ~~the following~~ synchronizing data time zone and daylight saving time information.

6. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~it~~said time synchronizing device comprises updating means for periodically updating said synchronizing data so as to synchronize said local time clock, by periodically activating said operational set, said updating means being preferably intended for using as said intercepted message for each of said updating periods, the first message received from ~~at least one of~~ said first communication ~~networks~~network during said updating period.

7. (Currently amended) Synchronizing device according to claim 1, wherein ~~it~~said time synchronizing device comprises safety means able to activate said operational set for at least two successive messages from respectively at least two different apparatus, to compare said synchronizing data respectively obtained for said successive messages, to check consistency

of said synchronizing data and to trigger a warning mechanism in case of inconsistency.

8. (Currently amended) Local gateway intended to be arranged between a LAN and a WAN and to enable communication in both directions between the LAN and the WAN, said local gateway comprising:

     a LAN interface for communication with the LAN,

     a WAN interface for communication with the WAN,

     a local gateway time clock, and

     synchronizing means for synchronizing said local gateway time clock with respect to a reference time clock, by means of synchronizing data received by said local gateway,

     wherein ~~in that~~ said synchronizing means ~~comprise~~comprises a time synchronizing device according to~~compliant with~~ claim 1 for synchronizing said local gateway, said ~~source~~first and ~~target~~second networks being respectively the LAN ~~(4)~~and the WAN for all intercepted messages, and said apparatus used for synchronizing being ~~thus~~at least one point of said LAN.

9. (Currently amended) Local gateway according to claim 8, wherein said synchronizing means ~~are~~is also able to synchronize said local gateway time clock with respect to a global time clock available from a timeserver of the WAN.

10. (Currently amended) Process for time synchronizing a router arranged between ~~two~~first and second communication networks, said time synchronizing process comprising~~the following steps~~:

     receiving synchronizing data based on a reference time clock from said second network, and

     exploiting said synchronizing data so as to synchronize a local time clock used by said router with respect to said reference time clock,

     wherein said time synchronizing process also comprises~~the following steps~~:

     intercepting at least one message coming from at least one apparatus being a point of ~~at least one of~~ said first network~~networks, called the source network for said message,~~ and

directed to the <u>second network</u><s>other of said networks, called the target network for said</s>

<s>message</s>, said apparatus having a specific time clock,

 preparing a time request intended for said apparatus, said time request being able to

be executed in said apparatus so as to cause said synchronizing data based on said specific

time clock to be obtained back from said apparatus,

 sending said time request to said apparatus, and

 forwarding said intercepted message to said target network after said time request

has been prepared,

 said receiving <s>step</s> including receiving said synchronizing data from said apparatus

and said exploiting <s>step</s> including exploiting said synchronizing data so as to synchronize

said local time clock with respect to said specific time clock,

 said time synchronizing process being preferably intended to be executed by means

of a time synchronizing device <s>compliant with</s><u>according to</u> claim 1.

11. (Original) Computer program product comprising program code instructions <u>of a</u>

<u>program</u> for the execution of the process according to claim 10 when said program is

executed on a computer <u>having storing space for said program</u>.